

or service as master, mate, or operator on board an uninspected towing vessel of 8 meters (approximately 26 feet) or more in length shall, if the vessel is equipped with radar, hold—

(1) A valid endorsement as radar observer; or,

(2) If the person holds a valid license dated before June 1, 1995, a valid certificate from a Radar-Operation course.

[CGD 81-059, 52 FR 38652, Oct. 16, 1987, as amended by CGD 94-041, 60 FR 8309, Feb. 14, 1995; CGD 95-028, 62 FR 51196, Sept. 30, 1997]

§ 15.820 Chief engineer.

(a) There must be an individual holding an appropriate license as chief engineer or a license authorizing service as chief engineer employed on board the following inspected mechanically propelled vessels:

(1) Seagoing or Great Lakes vessels of 200 gross tons and over.

(2) Offshore supply vessels of more than 200 gross tons.

(3) Inland (other than Great Lakes) vessels of 300 gross tons and over, if the OCMI determines that a licensed individual responsible for the vessel's mechanical propulsion is necessary.

(b) An individual engaged or employed to perform the duties of chief engineer on a mechanically propelled, uninspected, seagoing, documented vessel of 200 gross tons or over must hold an appropriate license authorizing service as a chief engineer.

§ 15.825 Engineers.

(a) An individual in charge of an engineering watch on a mechanically propelled, seagoing, documented vessel of 200 gross tons or over, other than an individual described in § 15.820, must hold an appropriate license authorizing service as an assistant engineer.

(b) The Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection determines the minimum number of licensed engineers required for the safe operation of inspected vessels.

§ 15.830 Radio officers.

Radio officers are required on certain merchant vessels of the United States. The determination of when a radio officer is required is based on the Federal Communications Commission requirements.

§ 15.835 Staff officers.

Staff officers, when carried, must be registered as specified in part 10 of this chapter.

§ 15.840 Able seamen.

(a) With certain exceptions, 46 U.S.C. 8702 applies to all vessels of at least 100 gross tons. At least 65 percent of the deck crew of these vessels, excluding licensed individuals, must be able seamen. For vessels permitted to maintain a two watch system, the percentage of able seamen may be reduced to 50 percent.

(b) Able seamen are rated as: unlimited, limited, special, offshore supply vessel, sail, and fishing industry, under the provisions of part 12 of this chapter. 46 U.S.C. 7312 specifies the categories of able seamen (i.e., unlimited, limited, etc.) necessary to meet the requirements of 46 U.S.C. 8702.

(c) It is the responsibility of the master or person in charge to ensure that the able seamen in the service of the vessel meet the requirements of 46 U.S.C. 7312 and 8702.

§ 15.845 Lifeboatmen.

The number of lifeboatmen required for a vessel are specified in the parts of the regulations dealing with the inspection of that specific type of vessel.

§ 15.850 Lookouts.

The requirements for the maintenance of a proper lookout are specified in Rule 5 of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972, and Rule 5 of the Inland Navigational Rules Act of 1980 (33 U.S.C. 2005). Lookout is a function to be performed by a member of a navigational watch.

§ 15.855 Cabin watchmen and fire patrolmen.

(a) On vessels carrying passengers at night, the master or person in charge shall ensure that a suitable number of watchmen are in the vicinity of the cabins or staterooms and on each deck, to guard against and give alarm in case of fire or other danger.

(b) On a fish processing vessel of more than 100 gross tons, there must be a suitable number of watchmen trained in firefighting on board when hot work